

July 2018

# Interreg Balkan-Mediterranean AIRTHINGS



Issue 1

6 Months Newsletter

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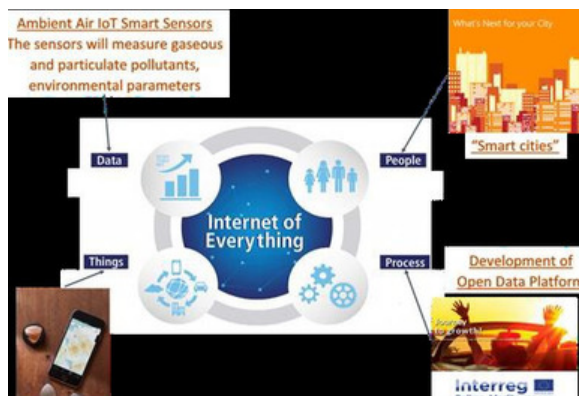
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The event took place in Thessaloniki

# AIRTHINGS KICK-OFF MEETING

The kick off meeting of AIRTHINGS project took place on the 23d of January 2018 in Thessaloniki. The event was hosted by the PP3 – City of Thessaloniki and was held in the City's Central Municipal Library.

Representatives of all PPs attended the meeting and introduced themselves to the consortium.

After a short welcome speech by the representatives of the Municipality of Thessaloniki and the leading partner – Sofia Municipality, a short presentation introducing the AIRTHINGS project took place. Further on, each partner presented oneself and its role in the Project along with ones expectations of the project, according to a presentation template that had been distributed to all partners by the LP a few days before the event.

Within the meeting, managerial issues concerning the course of the project were discussed, the members of the SC were appointed and a first round of talks about the requirements and specifications of the procurements commenced.







## During Bulgarian EU Presidency

# TWO EVENTS ANNOUNCING AIRTHINGS PROJECT

As the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of European Union has already finished, the team of Sofia Municipality (PP1) is proud to announce that during the two international major events dedicated to clean air held in Sofia, the AIRTHINGS project was brought to a significant attention – both of media representatives and stakeholders.

The first event - 'Eco-Innovation for Air Quality' was held on 5th Feb 2018 in Sofia. The AIRTHINGS project was brought to attention as part of the presentation of the Deputy Mayor on Environment in Sofia Municipality Ioana Hristova. She outlined the Projects mission and purpose and pointed out that IoTs that are about to be provided within the Project were a good example to-be for an innovative decision and a modern approach towards tackling the air quality urban issue.

The second event – '20th Eco-Energy Conference' dedicated to energy poverty and air quality was held on 20th of March 2018. The focus of the event was set on air quality and domestic heating. At that event, the Deputy-Mayor on Environment in Sofia Municipality Ioana Hristova again outlined the AIRTHINGS project and put emphasis on the great possibility AIRTHINGS project provided for obtaining chimney filters for domestic heating installations heading towards lower PM emissions.



Events were held in Barcelona and Thessaloniki

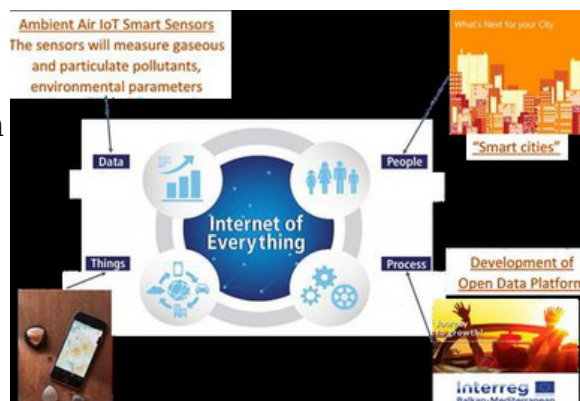
# AIRTHINGS PRESENTED DURING TWO SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

The scientific team of PP2 – Aristotle University in Thessaloniki, participated in two scientific events, having the chance to present the AIRTHINGS project among a targeted scientific community.

On 9th of July 2018 the AIRTHINGS project was brought to the attention of the participating scientists within a mutual Workshop, organized by Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and Karlsruhe Institute of Technology and held in University Dissemination Center (KEDEA Building). The presentation took place in the frame of a thematic group meeting on "Urban Sustainability" where the air quality IoT technology was announced as a proper cost-efficient urban solution.

A scientific presentation of the technical parameters of the AIRTHINGS, as a

contemporary solution combining low-cost innovative air pollution Internet of Things sensors with advanced air quality modelling tools, was also presented in the 11th International Conference on Air Quality in Barcelona, Spain, held in the mid of March 2018. The main conclusion, drawn by the scientific statement said that: "As air quality management problems become more complex, there is a need for enhanced air quality and exposure monitoring competences on the local and regional level. This study focuses on exploiting rapid developments in technology to combine low-cost innovative air pollution Internet of Things sensors with advanced air quality modelling tools, in order to provide both regulatory assessment services, as well as to support the evaluation of air pollution mitigation measures".





A special guide was developed under AIRTHINGS project

# BEST PRACTICES IN CLEAN AIR

The Guide to Best Practices in Other European Cities is an analytical document developed under the AIRTHINGS project by the consulting experts of Denkstatt – Sofia. The report aims to assist Sofia Municipality (PP1) in the implementation of project activities and, in particular, in the development of a guide to best global and European practices for the improvement of ambient air quality in cities. To achieve this goal, two main activities are made – evaluation of the technical aspects of the project and evaluation of the communication-related aspects of it. The technical part of the survey is dedicated to two main issues – air quality sensors and chimney filters to reduce pollution from domestic combustion. The Guide provides an important practical information about the technical parameters of all air quality sensors used within the main EU cities. Along with that, it provides a comparative information about the variety of technical air quality sensors that could be found on the Bulgarian market. All data obtained in this survey is to be used for outlining the technical parameters for the sensors that will be purchased and further – included in the Open Data Platform under the AIRTHINGS project.

Regarding the chimney filters, the Guide does analysis of the technical information obtained by 14 world producers and draws conclusions, outlines advises and offers solutions for implementation within the AIRTHINGS project. Within the evaluation of the communication-related aspects of the AIRTHINGS project, a broad analysis of the best practices in providing open source data for air quality is made. As a result, several main conclusions are drawn.

Among the biggest achievements of the Guide to Best Practices, is the ‘Conclusion & Recommendation’ part where 9 direct recommendation are given that will be used for the further processing of the AIRTHINGS project by Sofia Municipality.

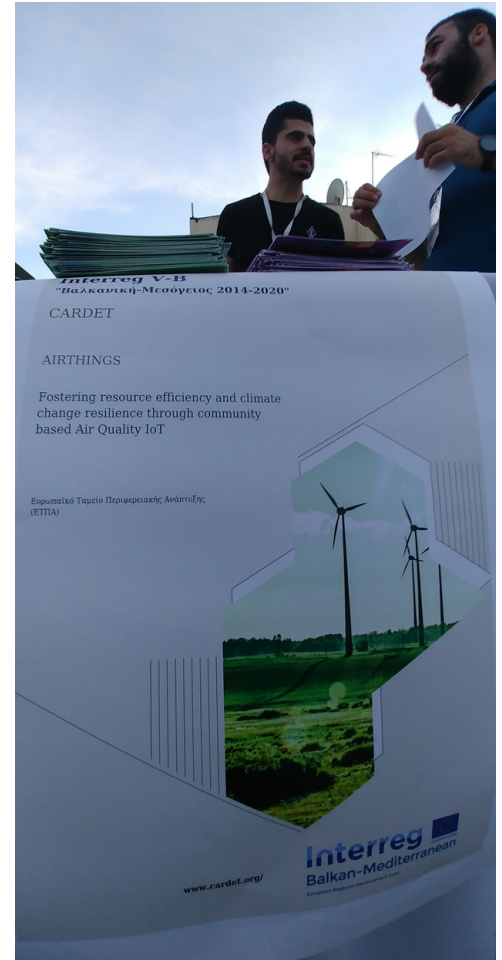
Find the Guide [here](#).



The event took place in Limassol

# AIRTHINGS AT YOUCHANGE INFO DAY

CARDET(PP4) participated in the YouChange Info Day that took place on 18th May at Agios Athanasios Municipal square in Limassol, Cyprus. The main scope of the Info Day was to present actions, activities, interesting initiatives, and programs in front of a wider audience. Local organizations, NGOs, institutions, private enterprises, and other agencies related to activities that involve youth themes were invited to participate. CARDET, set up a booth at the Info Day and disseminated information on its European-funded projects. AIRTHINGS was presented to participants that stopped by to receive information. The event took place as part of the Municipality's 'Europe Day' and gathered more than 500 visitors.



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Under AIRTHINGS Project

# SOFIA-SKOPJE WORKING MEETING

A working one-day meeting between experts from Sofia Municipality(PP1) and the State Environmental Inspectorate of Republic of the FYROM (PP6) was held in Sofia on 13th of July. Both sides had a discussion over the current implementation of the AIRTHINGS project. Darko Blinkov (PP6), Teodora Polimerova (PP1), Emilia Stoynev (PP1), Mariana Georgieva (PP1) and Kremena Georgieva (PP1) discussed over different administrative procedures, exchanged good practices and know-how. At the end of the day, all experts met with the Deputy Mayor on Environment in Sofia Municipality – Ioana Hristova (PP1) and pointed out all forthcoming tasks in the AIRTHINGS agendas of both project partners.



**95 IoT sensors**  
**will be installed over**  
**the Balkans under AIRTHINGS**



# AIRTHINGS AT A SCHOOL CONFERENCE



On February 03, 2018, members of the AIRTHINGS project team from CARDET (PP4) presented the project in the framework of the Conference “Workshop at the 17th Conference of Educational Group Cyprus’’. All project objectives and foreseen activities were clearly explained to the participants on this event. The AIRTHINGS project was disseminated to teachers, educators, private and public stakeholders, and reps of the Ministry of Education officials that participated in.

## AIRTHINGS AND EARTH DAY

In the framework of the project, Municipality of Tirana (PP5) has participated in Earth day 2018, organized by Tirana’s High Schools. During that day the team of the Municipality stressed on the importance of living in a safer and unpolluted planet providing clean future for all inhabitants.

On that day AIRTHINGS was introduced as a joint regional effort to identify and mitigate air pollutants that might worsen the quality of life for all Tirana inhabitants.

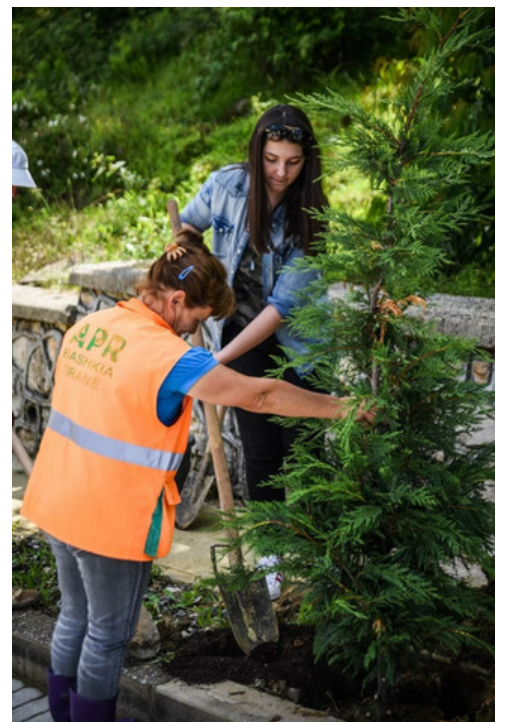




AIRTHING'S SLOGAN BECAME THE SLOGAN OF CHILDREN DAY 2018

# WE BREATHE TOGETHER!

On the 1st of June – the International Children's Day, Tirana Municipality (PP5) organized a special green event. They invited children to plant trees and to spend their day in the park, surrounding the artificial lake of Tirana. The slogan of AIRTHINGS 'I Breathe. We Breathe together.' not only was presented at the event, but also – it was used as an official slogan of the whole day. 10 trees were planted and all participants were practically engaged with the scope of the AIRTHINGS project.





# AIRTHINGS RAISING INTEREST IN THE FYROM

In a sequence of presentations in front of different local audiences and stakeholders, the State Environmental Inspectorate of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (PP6), outlined the aims and purposes of the AIRTHINGS project as a modern effort in mitigating climate change in the Balkan Region. Different thematic events were organized so that all audiences were targeted. There was a series of internal meetings within the State Environmental Inspectorate and there were also meetings with the Regional Environmental Center-Country office. During the EPICURO EU funded project a presentation was made on SEI AIRTHINGS activities in Skopje City Hall. The interest towards the new Open Data Platform and the forthcoming net of air quality sensors raised interest not only in social media but also in local TV and a broad TV report on the local Ohrid television - TVM providing details of the project, was made.





## IN NEED OF MORE INFORMATION:

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